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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions

(Special consultative: 1999)

Part I: Introduction

The Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions is an international human rights organisation committed to preventing forced evictions and upholding the human right to adequate housing. COHRE's International Secretariat office is in Geneva. COHRE currently operates field offices in Australia, Brazil, Ghana, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and the United States. COHRE's thematic programmes currently include: Right to Water; Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Litigation; Global Forced Evictions; Housing and Property Restitution; and Women and Housing Rights. COHRE also has the following regional programmes: COHRE Africa, COHRE Americas, COHRE Asia-Pacific. Further information about COHRE is available at: **www.cohre.org.**

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings:

COHRE is a member of the Steering Committee of the NGO Coalition for the adoption of an Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR). COHRE has worked extensively with and within United Nations mechanisms including participating in discussions of the draft OP-ICESCR at the 59th (17 March – 25 April 2003), 60th (13 March – 23 April 2004) and 61st (14 March – 22 April 2005) sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and the 1st session of the Human Rights Council, 19-30 June 2006, in Geneva, Switzerland. COHRE has participated at all meetings to date of the Open-Ended Working Group mandated to work on this issue.

COHRE has also been an active contributor to standard setting and norm-strengthening of the right to water, contributing to a number of ongoing processes. For instance, prior to the 57th session (25 July – 12 August 2005) of the United Nations Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland, COHRE provided legal and policy advice to the member of the United Nations Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights responsible for drinking water and sanitation, in his preparation of the Guidelines on the Realisation of the Right to Drinking Water and Sanitation, ultimately adopted by the Sub-Commission at its 58th session (7 July – 25 August 2006). On 22 March 2005 – World Water Day – the COHRE Right to Water Programme and the German Foreign Office hosted a parallel event at the 61st session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland.

COHRE has been engaged in work on the adoption of the Pinheiro Principles on housing and property restitution in the context of the return of refugees and displaced persons (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/17). At the 53rd (30 July to 17 August 2001) session of the United Nations Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland, COHRE successfully lobbied for the establishment of the Special Rapporteur on housing and property restitution in the context of the return of refugees and others displaced persons. COHRE supported the Special Rapporteur by providing comments on the various drafts of his report at the 54th (29 July – 16 August 2002), 55th

(28 July – 15 August 2003), 56th (26 July – 13 August 2004) and 57th (25 July – 12 August 2005) sessions of the Sub-Commission.

COHRE expertise in economic, social and cultural ("ESC") rights issues in particular countries has benefited United Nations agencies and bodies. In particular, COHRE has actively participated in forums including the following during 2003-2006:

- Commission on Human Rights, Geneva (all sessions 2003-2005). COHRE interventions included those on the topics of housing rights generally; housing, land and property restitution in the context of displacement; the right to water and sanitation; the draft Optional Protocol to the ICESCR.
- Human Rights Council, Geneva (all sessions 2006). COHRE interventions included those on the topics of housing rights generally; housing, land and property restitution in the context of displacement; the right to water and sanitation; the draft Optional Protocol to the ICESCR.
- Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Geneva (all sessions 2003-2005). COHRE interventions included those on housing rights; housing, land and property restitution in the context of displacement; and the right to water and sanitation.
- Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Geneva (all sessions 2003-2006). COHRE has assisted the work of the Committee with oral and written interventions including Shadow Reports on the human rights situations in Australia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Greece, India, Israel, Nigeria, Philippines, Thailand and Zambia, as well as topics such as the right to water and sanitation; social security; and non-discrimination.
- Human Rights Committee; COHRE provided intensive oral and written submissions, including Shadow Reports on housing rights issues in Kenya, Sri Lanka and the United States (14 March-1 April 2005, 20 October-7 November 2003, 12-20 July 2006 sessions respectively).
- Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Geneva, (all sessions 2003-2006); COHRE undertook supportive interventions for the Committee's work on discrimination issues in Argentina, Botswana, Brazil, Guatemala, Ireland, as well as on draft General Comment concerning discrimination and housing.
- Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, New York; COHRE provided the Committee with input on matters related to women and the right to water (consultations with individual Committee Members, 12 June 2004; 21 September 2004; 2 February 2005).

COHRE also provided extensive written materials on various factual and legal/conceptual matters to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Secretariat; to Special Rapporteurs on Rights to Adequate Housing, Health, Food, Racism and Racial Discrimination, and Human Rights Defenders; as well as to the Special Representative on Minority Issues. Finally COHRE has, during the period 2003-2006, engaged confidential procedures on consistent patterns of gross human rights violations in Israel and Nigeria.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters:

COHRE work in the areas set out under section ii) include intensive close consultative work on a number of issues with agencies including United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Human Settlements Programme and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Matters of frequent interface include forced evictions; right to water and sanitation; housing, land and property restitution for displaced persons and refugees; and women's human rights (including women and the right to water).

2. Human Relief Foundation

(Special consultative status: 2003)

Part I

HRF is a charity based in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (registration no: 1043676). Established in 1991 with its head office in the city of Bradford (United Kingdom) and branches in London, Birmingham, Glasgow (United Kingdom), Iraq (Baghdad, Mosul), Pakistan (Islamabad), Kashmir (Muzzafarabad), the Netherlands (Rotterdam), Jordan (Amman), Sudan (Khartoum), Mozambique (Maputo) and Azerbaijan (Baku). It has an annual turnover of £3 ($5.5) million (2005-2006) per year and was established by a group of committed and dedicated volunteers to provide emergency relief aid and assistance to poor and developing countries. It is currently managed by a Board of Trustees, Management Committee and has a team of 30 full-time and part-time offices & field workers across its offices and branches.

Vision/Mission- we aspire to achieve the following:

Alleviation of suffering and hardship for those most in need across the world

- To save and preserve life during emergencies and the immediate aftermath of natural and man-made disasters which have entailed major loss of life, material damage, physical destruction, psychological damage and social upheaval and suffering.
- To carry out short-term rehabilitation and reconstruction work in close conjunction with local agencies and partners with a view to facilitate the delivery of relief, limit damage and begin to help those affected regain a minimum level of self-sufficiency.
- To carry out long-term development programmes involving recipient communities to improve the living standards of people in need and ensure long-term sustainability.

Part II: Contribution to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in Conferences

1. The Director and the Project Manager of the Foundation attended the 56th Annual DPI/NGO Conference 8 – 10 September 2003, New York. The theme was (Human Security and Dignity: Fulfilling the Promise of the United Nations).

2. Our Representative has attended the 50th Session of the Commission in the Status of Women) from 27 February to 10 March 2006, New York.

3. We attended various conferences where United Nations representatives were present and participated in talks and lectures, such as the conference on the 10th Anniversary of the Code of Conduct of the International Red Cross and Crescent Society at The Hague, on 20 September 2004. Also the ' Aid and Trade' exhibition and workshops in Geneva, February 2006 conducted by the International Aid and Trade Organisation; where many United Nations representatives attended and they took part in the exhibition and workshops.

ii) Co-operation with UN agencies in the field

(a) In Iraq HRF made contact with UNICEF (office based in Amman/Jordan) concerning the implementation of various projects in Iraq such as schools, child security, health and hygiene issues. We also established contact with UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) in Geneva concerning the support and assistance in relation to the issue of the Iraqi displaced people inside Iraq and in the neighbouring countries (Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic).

(b) In Kashmir HRF responded to the earthquake in October 2005 and opened a camp in the city of Muzzafarabad for the displaced people who lost their homes. The camp was visited by the former UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan. The HRF has been in contact with various United Nations agencies in Kashmir concerning the support to the camp (UNICEF, WHO, World Food Programme).

(c) Dubai – The HRF participated in the DIHAD (Dubai International Humanitarian Aid and Development) in 2005,2006 - continuing

(d) Sudan – We work with various humanitarian organisations based in Sudan such as Global Health Foundation who have links with United Nations agencies in delivering aid and assistance to the people of Sudan.

iii) Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals (MDG's)

HRF are currently engaged in a broad range of activities across three continents which support the MDG's. HRF has been involved in many projects ranging from education programmes, health, and social-care and water purification projects. The countries and areas we have worked in are Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Turkey, Chechnya, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Kashmir, Palestine, Bangladesh, India, Lebanon, Somalia, Iraq, Pakistan, Egypt, Yemen and Sudan. We have delivered the following:

- Providing medicines & medical supplies to hospitals & clinics June 2003, April 2004, September 2006, February 2007
- Construction and rehabilitation of medical centres June 2004, February 2006
- Sending medical teams to provide treatment and perform operations and to deliver lectures and seminars December 2004 , June 2005
- Developing a midwives training project in Southern Sudan and Darfur to improve the reproductive health of local women May 2006
- Rehabilitation and refurbishment of schools May 2003, October 2005, August 2006

- Development of a primary school project in Kashmir November 2005, March 2006
- Providing educational supplies such as textbooks, periodicals and CD's May 2003, October 2005
- The digging and building of water wells (both deep and shallow wells) May 2005, September 2005
- Rehabilitation and maintenance of water purification plants and water pumps February 2006
- Distributing of water into peoples homes via local networks March 2005
- Involving local people in the management of water resources. September 2005
- Support to the Disabled institutions January 2006
- Providing workshops for skilled manual careers, i.e. courses in plumbing, mechanics, electrics and joinery June 2004, August 2005, April 2006
- Improving living conditions in nursing and elderly homes September 2005
- Micro-credit projects April 2004
- Currently sponsoring over 2000 poor families (years 2003 – 2006)
- Over 250 widows sponsored increasing to 500 (years 2003 – 2006)
- Around 6,000 orphans supported in Iraq, Palestine, Lebanon & Sudan (years 2003-2006)
- Support to displaced Iraqis in the Syrian Arab Republic June 2007
- Shipment of 50 containers from the United Kingdom to Iraq consisting of various medical supplies collected from United Kingdom hospitals worth approximately £5 ($10) million (years 2003 – 2006)
- Sponsoring over 2000 poor families and 250 widows sponsored in Iraq (years 2003 – 2006)
- Support to hospitals in Baghdad and Mosul as well as a cancer department in Baghdad and construction of Maternity Units in many parts of Iraq (years 2003 – 2006)
- Provided medical supplies in some of the worse hit areas in Lebanon August 2006
- Strengthened its capacity in Lebanon and conducted a limited assessment, particularly of schools that were used as temporary shelters for displaced people August 2006
- A donation of £40,000 ($70,000) was given to Mercy Malaysia where they were able to facilitate the construction of 32 semi-permanent houses March 2005
- A fully equipped ambulance provided which serves 12,000 people March 2005
- Set up a 2000-people tent-based village in Muzzafarabad, Kashmir November 2005
- HRF established clinics and employed nurses in Kashmir February 2006

Activities in support of Global Principles:

HRF have extensively promoted human rights through its activities, promotions, and marketing and dissemination activities since 2003. Our core commitment has been to distribute aid and support to all people irrespective of difference in race, ethnicity, faith, gender and any other difference.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council

HRF have aimed to participate as fully as possible in the work of the Economic and Social Council and are committed to increasing their involvement in the forthcoming years.

HRF would have performed more effectively if the following were facilitated:

- Better communication with United Nations workers- on many occasions there has been poor communication between HRF and United Nations staff.
- Information on meetings often arrives late giving very short notice to attend and this needs to be improved and a greater number of meetings need to occur in Europe to facilitate access and attendance.
- Attending international meetings can also be costly and our primary aim is to maximise expenditure on direct relief and development work.
- HRF are committed to increasing their involvement with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and are keen to maintain their consultative status with them.

3. International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus

(Special consultative: 1991)

Part I: Introduction

The mission of the International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (IF) is to improve the quality of life of people Spina Bifida and/or Hydrocephalus throughout the world and to decrease the prevalence of Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus by primary prevention.

It does so by being and further developing a network of knowledge and finding ways to disseminate this knowledge (including publications, conferences, websites) and by initiating and running projects of prevention, human rights, training and treatment and rehabilitation of people with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus.

Changes in the constitution

The constitution of IF was changed to be in line with the new legislation on (international) not-for-profit organisations in Belgium at the General Meeting in Minneapolis, United States of America on 28 June 2005. The major aims of the organisation remained the same, however, while in the process of making the constitution in line with the legislation, some changes, outlined below, were embedded. The internal rules of the organisations were changed to be in line with the new constitution and were accepted by the General Meeting in Helsinki, Finland on 29 June 2006.

The main changes were that organisations for/of people with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus do not have to be national organisations to become a member (i.e. to cover one geographical country) but that they can be regional or transnational.

Secondly, international solidarity between people with the disability in the North and the South was written in the organisations purpose (article 3 of the constitution).

Thirdly, the leadership (voluntary board membership) has become limited in time (three terms of 2 years), thus involving the members more in the decision making process.

Membership grew to 32 (national and regional) members in 2006.

Part II

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Due to the small size of the organisation, IF is mostly represented by the European Disability Forum in negotiations related to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People. Therefore, it has not cooperated with the United Nations as fully as might be expected, as it directs its resources to work in developing countries. IF does always communicate its United Nations status in all publications.

Independently, IF has worked through the World Health Organisation to develop a manual for midlevel rehabilitation workers to work with children with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. IF's network of experts has formulated feedback on the manual. The network will also provide experts to review the World Report on Disability, to be published in 2009.

Reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)

The work of IF is, for the moment, concentrated in 8 projects of treatment and rehabilitation of children with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus and training on all levels (from the child to the neurosurgeon) in 6 East-African countries, namely in Karthoum, Sudan; Kijabe, Kenya; Kampala and Mbale, Uganda; Blantyre, Malawi; Lusaka, Zambia and Moshi and Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania. Shunts, knowledge and experts are being sent to about 30 places worldwide. The organisation is expanding both in size (financially) and in geographical area.

The rights of children with a disability are being violated to an enormous respect. If the world wants to reach the MDG , more emphasis needs to be put on children with disabilities. IF is a human rights advocate with many an achievement, both in the North as in the South. IF therefore welcomes the new United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to which IF contributed though the board membership of the European Disability Forum (EDF).

Only 2% of the children with a disability get a proper education: IF encourages and facilitates parents to come up locally for their child, both for the treatment and rehabilitation as for social rights as education. This will be a new theme in the coming years, as children survive and become continent (which is a major social problem for children with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus).

Since mothers of children with a disability have a higher risk of being excluded from society, IF encourages mothers by training and bringing them together to care for their disabled and other children. IF has just begun monitoring the amount of parent group meetings and attendance in its

projects. Anecdotic, but nevertheless a milestone: the recently established parent group of Moshi, United Republic of Tanzania, filed a complaint against a government run hospital, operating in substandard conditions. As a result, the hospital will train its surgeons and supporting staff.

People with a disability have a higher risk of being poor. IF helps them by financing material for treatment and rehabilitation, and training for stakeholders on all levels (children, parents, nurses, to doctors and surgeons). The amount of shunts to treat hydrocephalus (implant device to evacuate Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF)) delivered to projects has been increasing with more than 30% a year to 2500 in 2006. This is without counting the increasing number of Endoscopic Third Ventriculostomy (ETV) operations, which is an alternative to shunts, with 324 operations executed in 2006.

Activities in Support of Global Principles

People with the two impairments are represented by IF at the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the World Health Organisation, the European Commission and other institutions.

IF is a Human Rights organisation. Human rights, according to IF, include the right to life and the right treatment and rehabilitation. During the reporting period, IF has developed three important policy statements on "Prevention of Neural Tube Defects and Mandatory Food Fortification", on "Prenatal Diagnosis and the Right to be Different" and, lastly, on "Active Termination of Life of Newborn Children with Spina Bifida and/or Hydrocephalus and the Right to Live". The last two have been generalized to all disabilities and to all European countries by the EDF working group on Human Rights and accepted at the EDF General Assemblies in Athens, May 2003, and Rome, May 2006.

IF has facilitated research with publications in the Journal of Neurosurgery, Paediatrics on 4 occasions in 2005.

IF itself organises an annual conference, meetings and workshops throughout the world. Concerning the reporting period, the most important ones were (most recent first): 16-18 October 2006: "Continence Management" in Kijabe, Kenya; 29 June-2 July 2006: "Access" in Helsinki; 24-30 March 2006: "Continence Management" together with Handicap International Viet Nam in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam; 28-29 October 2005: "Parent Work" in Nairobi, Kenya; 26-29 June 2005: "Building Bridges" in Minneapolis, United States of America; 20-21 May 2005: "Ethics" in Oostduinkerke, Belgium; 18-20 November 2004: "Hydrocephalus" in Mbale, Uganda; 2-5 September 2004: "Crossing Borders" in Oslo, Norway; 20-22 November 2003: "Neurogenic Bladder" in Moshi, United Republic of Tanzania. In these meetings, IF took the lead in organising, providing lecturers and publications and financing participation. (Local) meetings where the international volunteers and staff were present with only a lecture or as participants are not counted in this list as they are too numerous.

A major external evaluation of the projects took place in 10-19 October 2006, by an Norwegian external evaluator and a Belgian medical expert on Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. Recommendations are being implemented.

Annual reports, financial reports, financial audits, results of projects in developing countries, conference proceedings, conclusion of the evaluation can all be obtained at the IF secretariat.

4. Mandat International

(Special consultative: 2003)

Part I – Introduction

(i) Purpose of the organization:

- To promote dialogue and international cooperation;
- To welcome, brief and assist non-governmental delegates and to facilitate their participation in international conferences;
- To provide support services to delegates from developing countries and find budget accommodations for them with a view to achieving a more balanced geographical representation of civil society.

(ii) - Amendments:

On 26 April 2004, the status of Mandat International was changed to "public-interest foundation". The change is designed to facilitate efforts to raise the necessary funds to provide support services to delegates from developing countries. The purposes of the organization remain unchanged but were rewritten to place emphasis on the need for the equitable participation of developing countries in international conferences, greater youth participation and the importance of dialogue between government and non-governmental delegates. Mandat International relies on the skills and experience of the members of its international network and on its own Consultative Committee, which brings together well-known experts in all fields of international cooperation.

- Mandat International also enjoys consultative status with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- Through a partnership Mandat International has developed with the World Bank, delegates from developing countries can access World Bank documents free of charge;
- Mandat International joined the United Nations Global Compact in 2007.

Part II- Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Since it was granted consultative status, Mandat International has participated in many United Nations meetings and has made the following contributions:

(i) - Contribution to the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

- On 8 December 2003, Mandat International organized a "Consultative meeting on cooperation between NGOs of developing countries and the United Nations system" at the Palais des Nations in Geneva exclusively for NGOs from developing countries in different parts of the world. Participants worked on the elaboration and adoption of significant proposals for inclusion in the Cardoso report on United Nations reforms. Those recommendations are still relevant and could be of interest to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. The report on the meeting is available on the Internet in French (http://www.mandint.org/doc/8decfr.pdf), English (http://www.mandint.org/doc/8decen.pdf) and Spanish (http://www.mandint.org/doc/8deces.pdf).

- Mandat International regularly follows the work of the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations. During the twenty-first session of the Working Group, held in Geneva from 21 to 25 July, Mandat International organized a panel on "Fair Trade and Indigenous Populations". In July 2005 and 2006, Mandat International organized Cultural Days for Indigenous Peoples in conjunction with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Swiss Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to increase awareness of the work of the Economic and Social Council for indigenous populations and to highlight the rich contribution of indigenous peoples to world culture.

- Since 2006, Mandat International has participated in the NGO/Civil Society Forum preparations for the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council.

- Through its Welcome Centre for Non-Governmental Organizations and Delegations, Mandat International offers support services to nearly 1,000 delegates every year (from approximately 110 countries), mainly from the developing countries, making it easier for them to participate, on a more regular basis, in the meetings of the organizations of the United Nations system. Thus, every year, Mandat International provides support to nearly 80 United Nations international conferences, including many that are directly related to the work of the Economic and Social Council.

- Mandat International has issued a number of trilingual information guides (English/French/Spanish) which facilitate NGO participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council, in particular "Delegate's Guide" and "Guide on International Organizations". These Guides are available on its Internet site (www.mandint.org).

- Mandat International coordinates the Information Platform (www.ngo-info.org) which enables more than 500 NGOs from more than 80 countries, mainly developing countries, to cooperate and carry out joint projects, particularly development projects. Thanks to its consultative status, Mandat International participates in meetings of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and then briefs NGOs from developing countries on progress in the work of the United Nations. Every year, it places about 70 conference summaries online.

(ii) Contribution to other United Nations bodies

- Mandat International participated in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on the Information Society, held from 17 to 28 February and 15 to 26 September 2003, and in the Summit itself, held from 10 to 12 December 2003 in Geneva. Mandat International supported the participation of NGOs from the South and presented the recommendations of the Working Group on the Information Society of the World Civil Society Forum, held in Geneva from 14 to 20 July 2002.

- In 2006, Mandat International, capitalizing on its experience with the United Nations, launched a new education programme to introduce young people between 12 and 18 years of age to the work of the United Nations system. More than 700 students have already made visits and attended meetings under this programme. Twelve thematic files will soon be available to students all over the world on the Internet.

- In 2004, Mandat International organized consultations on cooperation between NGOs and international organizations.

(iii) - Contributions to the Millennium Development Goals

Mandat International facilitates the participation of NGOs from developing countries in the elaboration and follow-up of policies for realizing the Millennium Development Goals. Mandat International fully supports these Goals and contributes to furthering a number of aspects of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in particular the promotion of international law through a legal search engine on the Internet (www.whatconvention.org) which it has developed to facilitate access to international norms. This tool will be progressively extended to all branches of international law (humanitarian, health, environmental, development).

These gratifying efforts in support of the work of the United Nations and the successes achieved would not have been possible if the organization did not enjoy consultative status. Mandat International wishes to thank the members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations for their support and their confidence and to assure them of its strong commitment to helping to attain the goals and objectives of the United Nations.

5. New Japan Women's Association

(Special Consultative: 2003)

Part I. Introduction

The New Japan Women's Association (NJWA) is a Japanese non-governmental organization (NGO) established in 1962, at the call of 32 prominent women who were writers, women's rights activists, artists, and actresses. NJWA works for five major objectives: 1) To abolish nuclear weapons; 2) To ensure adherence to the Japanese Constitution which declares the renunciation of war; 3) To promote the rights and advancement of women and children; 4) To promote democracy; and 5) To develop international solidarity for world peace.

The NJWA national office (headquarters) coordinates activities carried out by 200,000 members who belong to the organization's 10,000 basic unit organized in workplaces and communities including rural areas throughout the country. NJWA has chapters in all the 47 prefectures and branches in 880 municipalities, and organizes 27,000 club activities. It has 300,000 subscribers to its weekly organ paper called Shinfujin Shimbun. NJWA is the largest individual membership-based women's group in Japan.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

The organization's representative attended the following sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) held in New York, the United States of America:

The 48th Session, 1-12 March 2004;

The 49th Session (Beijing + 10), 28 February -11 March 2005;

The 50th Session, 27 February -10 March 2006.

In 2004, a representative of NJWA attended the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) high-level meetings held in Bangkok, Thailand in preparation for Beijing + 10 from 5 to 12 September.

In 2003, a representative of NJWA attended the 29th Session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), New York, from 30 June to 18 July.

In 2005, two representatives of NJWA attended the Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, New York, from 2 to 27 May as members of the Japan Council against Atomic & Hydrogen Bombs delegation.

ii) Activities in support of the United Nations and Global Principles

The organization's activities in support of the United Nations have not been in a direct manner such as co-sponsoring meetings, seminars and projects. However, on every occasion of attending the Commission on the Status of Women and other United Nations meetings, NJWA representative brings a report, statement and other useful material, and co-sponsors Peace Caucus together with representatives of women's groups from different countries. In this way it contributes to the collective effort of NGOs for the successful outcomes of the meetings held by the Untied Nations bodies. The report prepared for the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, NY: "TEN YEARS AFTER BEIJING: STILL MORE PROMISES THAN PROGRESS 1995-2005: Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action," which was published in February 2005 includes many proposals made by the NJWA.

Every year, NJWA observes the International Women's Day. It publishes a series of related articles and information in its weekly organ paper and monthly magazines, and co-sponsors the International Day of Women meetings or seminars at both national and local levels.

Placing abolition of nuclear weapons on top of the organization's major objectives, NJWA calls for the establishment of an international order of peace based on the Charter of the United Nations. To this end, it undertakes various activities in cooperation with NGOs both at home and abroad. On 13 May 2006, NJWA sponsored the International Women's Symposium on Peace, to which it invited as panelists representatives of NGOs in special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council; General Secretary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) and Co-representative of the Korean Women's Associations United (KWAU), along with a member of the September the 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows, the United States of America. The symposium provided a great opportunity for 320 people coming from different parts of the country to attend it, including representatives of women's and peace organizations, as well as many NJWA members to learn about the role of the United Nations and NGOs working together for conflict prevention and peace making, and about the significance of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. On the question of nuclear abolition, NJWA takes active part in the World Conference against Atomic & Hydrogen Bombs held every August in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in which many government representatives, NGOs and individuals

including Hibakusha, survivors of the atomic bombing, assemble to have dialogues, meetings, and workshops discussing the way to achieve the goal of eliminating nuclear weapons.

On the rights and advancement of women, NJWA takes every opportunity to make proposals of its own or as a member of the International Women's Year Liaison Group, Japan's biggest network organization of women's groups in special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council to the Japanese Government for the promotion of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and all the agreements that have been made in the follow-up meetings as well as in other relevant conferences.

Regarding the initiatives undertaken in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals, NJWA has not carried out specific projects or initiatives. However, it provides as much information as possible to its members and organ paper readers on the meaning and significance of these goals by publishing articles on the weekly organ paper and organizing seminars. NJWA also supports and assists the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).